Message

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Sent:	1/28/2020 4:00:58 PM
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Subject:	DRAFT... PFAS Analytic Tools Version 2.0 Availability (and other project updates)

Last week I had agreed to push out release notes for the new internal product. Since we have not communicated with our workgroup in a LONG time (like a year), I tried to write it in a way that gives some background. I'm hoping to push this out today – end of day. If you have any suggested comments, please let me know.

DRAFT.....

I'm pushing this email out to both the original EPA workgroup that assisted us in reviewing/developing the original PFAS Analytic Tools and other EPA staff that have worked with us on various efforts to QA PFAS data. I'm including a bit of background for those that are newer to this project.

Background

- In September 2018, EPA formed a cross-Agency workgroup to review a Qlik-based application (called PFAS Analytic Tools) that had been developed by OECA as a way to see available national PFAS data in one place.
- The workgroup held a series of meetings which let to various improvements to the application and the application was released internally as a beta version to EPA staff at the direction of the EPA PFAS Steering Committee.
- In February 2019, EPA's PFAS Action Plan called for EPA to develop a public version of the PFAS Analytic Tools and work with the states to improve data sharing.
- In May 2019, EPA completed Version 1.0 of the PFAS Analytic Tools and it was released to states and government users for their use. EPA conducted briefings and trainings for state associations.
- In 2019, ORD came on board as the joint project lead for the project (Mike Barrette and Amanda Pruzinsky from OECA and Andy Gillespie, Tim Buckley, and Alex Montilla from ORD).
- In 2020, ORD assumed the lead on the project – so future communication on the project will be coming from the ORD leads.

Status of Tools

- Currently there are two versions of the PFAS Tools as noted below.
  - **PFAS Analytic Tools Version 2.0 - Release Notes** (designed for government use and available to all EPA staff and government users that are registered in ECHO Gov)
    - EPA has just replaced the original Version 1.0 of the PFAS Analytic Tools with Version 2.0. I encourage you to try it out.
      - Version 2.0 has a much nicer look and feel, and it much more user friendly.
        - All maps and graphs can be resized to full screen.
        - Filters and background info are top left via buttons that can be minimized to increase screen area for maps.

- o Selections you make are shown at bottom of screen and can be removed to return to full national data.
- o Data can be downloaded directly from the tool using the download icon.
- o All data sets have been updated.
- It includes a new tab with "industry sector" tab that provides a listing of facilities that are in industries known to handle or use PFAS chemicals.
    - o That tab will not be available in the public version because EPA has no verification facilities noted actually have used PFAS – they are only in industries where some facilities use PFAS.
    - o The data is from ECHO and includes facilities regulated under CWA, CAA, RCRA and SDWA.
    - o The SIC and NAICS codes used combined from lists maintained by OLEM, OAR, OECA and Minnesota.
- EPA has also updated the "Places of Interest" tab.
    - o In Version 1.0, there were limited data primarily for Superfund sites.
    - o In Version 2.0, EPA has adopted a new data model which provides a greater degree of detail about locations where EPA is involved in PFAS-related activities. ORD has a data model and has contacted all Regions and program offices to ensure that locations with substantial EPA involvement in PFAS activities will now appear on the map. *Contact Alex Montilla if you have questions about this data set or want to find out how to submit new data.*
    - o EPA is working with state associations to eventually add state places of interest to this data layer.
- Users can access the PFAS Analytic Tools via the following pathway – go to echo.epa.gov > log in > click "Analyze Trends" > click "Data Visualization Gallery" > select PFAS Analytic Tools and Navigation Center > click on PFAS Analytic Tools from the Navigation Center. The current URL is

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   - o Note that the URL may change, but the pathway noted above will always point to the most current version of the tool.
- Regions may forward the above information to states if they want to alert them to the tool updates.
- As noted in the PFAS Action Plan, EPA is working on a Best Practices Guide that will be released to states and will assist them in learning how they can flow data that will appear in the PFAS Analytic Tools. That Guide is not yet completed.

- o **National PFAS Data Explorer** (beta version of the public tool, which has not been released)
    - ▪ I wanted to be sure that EPA users are aware that we have re-named the version of the tool that will be public to the "National PFAS Data Explorer."
    - ▪ Generally, the look and feel of the products are the same.
    - ▪ The main differences are the National PFAS Data Explorer will have informational text geared to public audiences, and will not include the "industry sectors" tab.
    - ▪ Generally, the tools are very similar in look and feel.
    - ▪ ORD is working with senior managers across the agency on the release strategy and timetable for release.

Thanks again for your assistance through this process.

Mike